Damage to Aircrafts

1492. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently the Delhi airport has witnessed rising number of cases of bird hits, damaging the aircrafts, disrupting airlines' schedules and causing inconvenience to passengers;

(b) if so, the details of such cases during the last two years and an assessment of the damage caused to the aircraft; and

(c) the details of action plan drawn up to overcome the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (b) No, Sir. In the year 2006 (till date) only five bird hit incidents have taken place as against nine incidents of bird hit reported in the year 2005. Out of the nine bird hit incidents reported in 2005, there was no damage in four cases. However in the other cases, damages were assessed in blades of engine, radome and tyres. In the five bird hit incidents reported in 2006, minor damages to engine, outer edge of the wing and engine blade were assessed.

(c) Government have ensured many preventive measures. Airfield Environment Management Committees have been constituted at those airport where scheduled flights operate to identify the sources of bird attraction and take remedial steps for prevention of such incidents. Various steps have been taken to reduce bird hits inside and outside the airports such as proper disposal of garbage, prevention of water logging, coverage of garbage dalaos, establishment of modem abattoirs, scaring and shooting of birds etc.

Theft cases

1493. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether rampant cases of theft have been reported in Air India and Indian flights;

(b) if so, the details of cases reported during the last three years; year-wise, Airlines-wise;

(c) the action taken in each of these cases; and

(d) the preventive measures taken by Government to avoid such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The details of theft cases reported during the last three years in Air India and Indian Airlines are as under:—

Year	*Air India*	*Indian Airlines*
2003	02	01
2004	01	02
2005	01	01

In these cases employees were found to be in possession of items belonging to Air India and Indian Airlines etc.

The guilty employees were awarded punishments depending on the gravity of theft *viz.* reduction to a lower pay scale in the time scale/issue of warning.

(d) As and when such cases are reported, stringent disciplinary action is taken against the erring staff. They are also kept off flying duties pending enquiry, which entails loss of flying allowance. Security personnel are deployed near the aircraft to maintain strict surveillance of employees entering/leaving the aircraft. Discreet surveillance is maintained in all areas, including baggage make up/break up areas, check-in counters, cargo warehouses to prevent theft.

Upgradation of airports in Madhya Pradesh

†1494. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to upgrade a number of airports to the international level;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.